North Central Regional Transit District (NCRTD)

Resolution No. 2017-05

ADOPTION OF A POLICY REGARDING ANIMALS ON THE DISTRICT'S VEHICLES

WHEREAS, the NCRTD was created through legislative enactment (NMSA 1978, Sections 73-25-1 through 73-25-19); and

WHEREAS, the NCRTD is a subdivision of the State of New Mexico with all the authority and duties of the same; and

WHEREAS, the Board has the authority to make and pass resolutions necessary for the execution of the powers vested in the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board has approved Service Animal Policies as part of the ADA Paratransit, Demand and Dial a Ride Policies and Procedures; and

WHEREAS, the NCRTD wishes to adopt a standalone policy regarding Animals on District's Vehicles.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board adopts the attached policy regarding animals on the District's vehicles.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT ON THIS 13TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2017.

Daniel R. Barrone, Chairman

Approved as to form:

Peter Dwyer, Counsel

NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT	
SUBJECT: ANIMALS ON THE DISTRICT'S PUBLIC VEHICLES	**NUMBER**: Operations - 02
EFFECTIVE DATE: January 13, 2017	**Adopted by Board Resolution No. 2017 - 05**
AMENDS/SUPERSEDES:	**APPROVED:** **ANTHONY J. MORTILLARO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

1.0 Objective:

The objective of this policy is to provide limited exceptions to the District's general prohibition against animals on the Districts vehicles used for public transportation.

2.0 Coverage:

This policy covers all animals on all NCRTD vehicles regardless of the nature or purpose of the animal or the type of District vehicle.

3.0 Oversight Responsibility:

This policy shall be administered principally by NCRTD drivers but all NCRTD staff are responsible for complying with, reporting violations of and assisting in the enforcement and implementation of this policy.

4.0 General Prohibition:

It is the Policy of the District to prohibit all animals on all District vehicles unless there is an express exception in this policy, a valid order of a court, a countermanding instruction from a police, fire or other public safety official, or prior approval by the District's Executive Director.

5.0 Exceptions:

The following animals are excepted from this policy and are permitted upon District vehicles"

a. Service animals

b. Animals in the custody and control of a public safety official

c. Animals that can be safely transported in a container without risk of damage to District property, without impairing District services, and that have no observable impact upon other passengers or person in District vehicles. Examples of such animals include pet fish in safe

containers, or food or bait that is safely stored and does not emit odor or noises of any kind.

6.0 Service Animals:

Service animals include any animal that the owner identifies as providing a service. District employees may ask passengers or persons entering any District vehicle to state whether an animal is a service animal but shall accept the persons assertion without further inquiry. If a District employee believes that an animal is not a service animal and should not be permitted on NCRTD vehicles they may raise that issue with a supervisor for further evaluation and action but shall not deny the person service or entry nor delay service or operations pending resolution of the issue.

7.0 Passenger Safety:

Noting herein is intended to impair passenger safety. Any animal on any District vehicle which is determined to pose a risk to passenger safety shall be immediately reported to District management by any employee observing an animal that causes a risk or apprehension of harm to any person in any district vehicle. In the event that a District employee believes that an animal constitutes a safety risk, the operator of the vehicle may contact his or her manager and seek guidance under the Districts general policies for riders to ensure that all District operations are performed in a manner to optimize safety to employees as well as the general public. Aggressive, loud or noxious smelling animals should be reported promptly by district employees. If District management deems an animal to pose a safety risk or to constitute an impairment to District operations the District management may take such steps as are reasonably necessary to resume and ensure continued safe operations including but not limited to enforcement of general rider policies, instructions to passengers on appropriate management and restraint of animals or referral of the matter to the District's legal counsel for enforcement of this policy.